

Form 1449 (Modified) Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant (Use Several Sheets if Necessary)	Atty. Docket No. RSI1P013	Application No.: 09/816,491
	Applicant: George Harry Hoffman, et al. Filing Date: 3/23/01	Group Art Unit: 2461 3627



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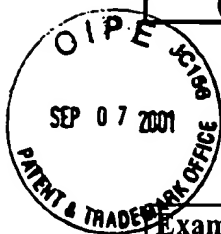
U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	No.	Patent No.	Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date
VZ	A	6,167,380	12/26/00	Kennedy et al.	705	10	02/18/97
	B	6,151,582	11/21/00	Huang et al.	705	8	02/24/97
	C	6,115,690	09/05/00	Wong	705	7	12/22/97
	D	5,983,198	11/09/99	Mowery et al.	705	22	04/23/96
	E	5,974,395	10/26/99	Bellini et al.	705	9	08/21/96
	F	5,963,919	10/05/99	Brinkley et al.	705	28	12/23/96
	G	5,953,707	09/14/99	Huang et al.	705	10	02/21/97
	H	5,914,878	06/22/99	Yamamoto et al.	364	468.13	07/22/97
	I	5,884,300	03/16/99	Brockman	707	2	05/01/97
	J	5,774,868	06/30/98	Cragun et al.	705	10	12/23/94
	K	5,771,172	06/23/98	Yamamoto et al.	364	468.13	07/22/97
	L	5,765,143	06/09/98	Sheldon et al.	705	28	03/10/95
	M	5,687,322	11/11/97	Deaton et al.	395	214	06/01/95

Foreign Patent or Published Foreign Patent Application

Examiner Initial	No.	Document No.	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-class	Translation	
							Yes	No
VZ	N	00/51038	31.08.00	WO- PCT	G06F	17/40		
VZ	O	99/67729	29.12.99	WO- PCT	G06F	17/60		
Examiner				Date Considered				
VZ				11/25/05				

Form 1449 (Modified)	Atty. Docket No. RSI1P013	Application No.: 09/816,491
Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant	Applicant: George Harry Hoffman, et al.	Group Art Unit: 2161 3627
(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)	Filing Date: 3/23/01	



Other Documents

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Examiner Initial	No.	Author, Title, Date, Place (e.g. Journal) of Publication
gc	P	www.zdnet.com/e-commerce/stories/main/0,10475,2601706,00.html - "Supply chain gets cold cuts"
	Q	http://www.foodlogistics.com/archives/jul00/jul00-coverstory.html - "Cover Story: Supply Chain Management Quarterly Efficient Foodservice Response Moving Towards Efficiency"
	R	http://www.localbusiness.com/Story/Print/0,1197,NOCITY_55953,00.html "MindFlow: Purchasing Savvy"
	S	http://freespace.virgin.net/heathcote.echain/white_paper_4.htm "e-Chain Solutions Limited, White Paper 4 - Efficient Foodservice Response (EFR)"
	T	http://www.startmag.com/v3n9/v3n9p060.asp "Start - November 1999, v3n9 The Virtual Supply Chain"
	U	http://www.p21.com/acclaim/supply-chain.html "Supply Chain Management"
	V	http://www.sap.com/press/fs_scm.htm "mySAP.com TM Supply Chain Management"
	W	http://www.foodlogistics.com/esupply/esupply/section3.html "An E- Powered Supply Chain"
	X	http://www.supplychainbrain.com/news/ "Supply Chain Brain Quick Read Newsletter February 21, 2001"
Examiner	Date Considered	
<i>[Signature]</i>	11/25/05	

Examiner: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George Harry HOFFMAN et al.
Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER
PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR LANDED COST
REPORTING IN A SUPPLY CHAIN
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
Appl. No.: 09/816,491
Filing Date: 03/23/2001
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: 2161

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT AND DISCLOSURE

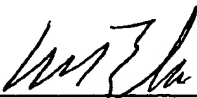
RSI prior to the claimed invention negotiated and manually administered master supplier contracts and master distributor contracts that assigned various supplier-distributor and distributor-store relationships, and which established a contract price for an item and an invoice price for the item that is different from the contract price and which may require a supplier to take an advance position in a raw material. Such master contract data was not accessible via a network for use in an automated process. RSI also manually used electronically-calculated least cost algorithms wherein selected parameters were forced manually for selecting suppliers and routes, but the least cost algorithm calculation and forcing was not fully integrated into a system accessible via a network and there was no automated interrelated process that was reviewable on the network on demand by registered independent supply chain users. Previous applications from this assignee which include one or more of the features in these claims are 09/815606, 09/816560, 09/816268, 09/816507, 09/816896, 09/815668, 09/816421, 09/815489, 09/816420, 09/816048 among others. It is possible that the foregoing disclosure may be pertinent to any claims in the assignee applications that claimed a manual master contract negotiation step as one of the elements of the combination claim.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 12/23/04

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5485
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

William T. Ellis
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,874

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: December 23, 2004 (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/816,491
		Filing Date	March 23, 2001
		First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN et al.
		Group Art Unit	240T 3627
		Examiner Name	Unassigned <i>Carroll</i>
Attorney Docket Number	062834-0117		
Sheet	1	of	3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,204,821		Inui et al.	04-20-1993	
		5,490,060		Malec et al.	02-08-1996	
		5,638,519		Haluska	06-10-1997	
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		6,032,125		Ando	02-29-2000	
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		6,078,900		Etti et al.	06-20-2000	
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		6,260,024	B1	Shkedy	07-10-2001	
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		2001/0020230	A1	Kaneko et al.	09-06-2001	
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		2002/0069096	A1	Lindoeffer et al.	06-06-2002	
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Examiner
Signature

[Signature]

Date
Considered

11/25/05

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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	09/816,491
Date Submitted: December 23, 2004		Filing Date	March 23, 2001
(use as many sheets as necessary)		First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN et al.
		Group Art Unit	246T 3627
		Examiner Name	Unassigned Zander
		Attorney Docket Number	062834-0117
Sheet	2	of	3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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2002/0143669	A1	Scheer	10-03-2002
2002/0143692	A1	Helmermann et al.	10-03-2002
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2003/0212610	A1	Duffy et al.	11-13-2003
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
PZ		Noori, Hamid; Production and Operations Management; Total Quality Responsiveness; McGraw-Hill; 1995; pages 422-519	
		Noori, Hamid; Production and Operations Management; Total Quality Responsiveness; McGraw-Hill; 1995; pages 592-601	
		PR Newswire: Andersen Consulting Announce Strategic Alliance, Looksmart, September 6, 2000	
		Stephanie Stahl, "A Whopping Inventory Task - Burger King's purchasing agency lures suppliers online to streamline its huge distribution system", INFORMATIONWEEK, 1994	

Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered	11/25/05
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		First Named Inventor	George H. HOFFMAN et al.
		Group Art Unit	2464 3627
		Examiner Name	Unassigned 2 eandee
		Attorney Docket Number	062834-0117
Sheet	3	of	3

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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		John Rendleman, "Burger King Orders AT&T Mail Service", CommunicationsWeek, 1994.	
		Microsoft Computer Dictionary, 4 th Edition, Microsoft Press, 1999, pages 167, 242, 334, 421, 443, 444 and 462	
		Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary; 3 rd Edition; 1997; Microsoft Press; pages 355 and 463	
		Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary; 10 th Edition; 1996; page 139.	
		Troyer, Charles; The Role of Bar Codes in Food Safety; Food Distributors International; May 2000, entire document.	
		Common identification Standards; GCI; Global Scorecard.net-Guide to ECT concepts.	

Examiner Signature	<i>F. 2 eandee</i>	Date Considered	11/25/05
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: June 2, 2003 (use as many sheets as necessary)		Application Number	09/816,491
		Filing Date	03/23/2001
		First Named Inventor	George Harry Hoffmann
		Group Art Unit	2164
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet 1 of 2	Attorney Docket Number	062834-0117	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
PZ	A1	4,713,761		Sharpe et al.	12-15-1987	
	A2	4,799,156		Shavit et al.	01-17-1989	
	A3	5,305,199		LoBiondo et al.	04-19-1994	
	A4	5,712,989		Johnson et al.	01-27-1998	
	A5	5,758,329		Wojcik et al.	05-26-1998	
	A6	5,884,300		Brockman	03-16-1999	
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	A12	6,138,106		Walker et al.	10-24-2000	
	A13	6,148,291		Radican	11-14-2000	
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	A15	6,219,653	B1	O'Neill et al.	04-17-2001	
	A16	6,263,317	B1	Sharp et al.	07-17-2001	
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	A19	6,393,408	B1	Mosher et al.	05-21-2002	
	A20	6,418,416	B1	Rosenberg et al.	07-09-2002	
	A21	2002/0019759	A1	Arunapuram et al.	02-14-2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
PZ	A22	JP	2002236730 A		SUGIOKA, MIKIO	08-23-2002		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
PZ	A23	Information on Deal Time International, 1998-2002	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	11/25/05
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		Filing Date	03/23/2001
Date Submitted: June 2, 2003 (use as many sheets as necessary)		First Named Inventor	George Harry HOFFMAN
		Group Art Unit	2461 <i>367</i>
Sheet 2 of 2		Examiner Name	Unassigned
		Attorney Docket Number	062834-01

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
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<i>FZ</i>	A24	Information on Circuit City Stores, Inc., 1996-2002	
<i>FZ</i>	A25	"Deal Time.com Spiders Web for Bargains", Mary Hillebrand, 30 June, 1999, E-Commerce Times	

Examiner Signature	<i>D. Z...</i>	Date Considered	11/25/05
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PZ	C1	5,946,662 A		Ettl et al.	08-31-1999	
	C2	5,950,173 A		Perkowski	09-07-1999	
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	C9		WO 97/17663	A1	De La Motte	05-1997		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
PZ	C10	Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary 3 rd Edition; 1997; Microsoft Press; page 258	
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Examiner Signature



Date Considered

11/25/05

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.



Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
Date Submitted: October 11, 2002
(use as many sheets as necessary)

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTSOTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	6/15/09
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0117

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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EMPLOYEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George Harry HOFFMAN et al.
Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND
COMPUTER PROGRAM
PRODUCT FOR LANDED COST
REPORTING IN A SUPPLY CHAIN
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
Appl. No.: 09/816,491
Filing Date: 03/23/2001
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: 2161

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PROPRIETARY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.56 AND MPEP §§ 724

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is a listing of co-pending U.S. patent applications, which relate(s)
to the above-identified application.

SERIAL NO.

FILING DATE

SERIAL NO.

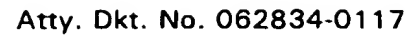
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<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>SERIAL NO.</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>
09/816,083	March 23, 2001	09/816,429	March 23, 2001
09/816,092	March 23, 2001	09/816,430	March 23, 2001
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Applicant considers the aforementioned documents and the disclosure of their existence as pending applications to constitute proprietary information. This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended as an admission either that the listed applications constitute prior art against the claims of the present application or that the listed applications are material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

Applicant assumes that the examiner will have access to all of the references cited in the applications. However, if the examiner wishes applicants to submit copies of the references cited in the listed applications, the examiner is encouraged to inform applicants.



Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0117

Accompanying this Proprietary Information Disclosure Statement is a transmittal letter indicating that the materials contained herein are proprietary, as required by MPEP § 724.02.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.97(B) prior to the mailing date of the first official action.

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Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the foregoing information and provide in the next official communication the information set forth in MPEP § 724.04(a), particularly the information under item (3), so that the applicant can, if appropriate, subsequently file a petition to expunge those materials, as provided according to MPEP § 724.05.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 29, 2003

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER
Customer Number: 22428



22428

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Registration No. 26,874

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.